

Remarks

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 5-15 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to apply for protection for the cancelled claims in one or more continuing applications. Claims 16, 18 and 20-23 have been amended above to depend from and/or refer to the group of claims that is being elected by Applicants herein below. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 17-20 and 23 are now under the consideration in the above-referenced application. Provided above, please find a claim listing which shows the cancellation of claims 5-15, and amendments to claims 16, 18 and 20-23 so as to comply with the requirements set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. It is respectfully asserted that no new matter has been added in the present application.

II. THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement as follows:

Group I Claims 1-4, 17-20 and 23, drawn to a cassette with a plurality of cartridges for dispensing liquid therefrom, the cartridge being closed at one end and having an outlet port from which liquid is injected by a pulse of pressurized gas; and

Group II Claims 5-16, 21 and 22, drawn to a liquid dispensing apparatus with liquid reservoir, outlet port and driving means for generating a pulse of gas in order to force the liquid out of the outlet port.

As the Examiner shall ascertain, claims 5-15 have been cancelled above, without prejudice. In addition, claim 16 has been amended to depend from claim 3 (which is included in Group I). Claims 21 and 22 have been amended above to depend from and/or refer to claims that are included only in Group I, and not dependent from

claims 5-15 (provided in Group II) which the Examiner identified as being directed to a liquid dispensing apparatus.

In view of the above claims amendments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 16, 21 and 22 should also be included in Group I, and removed from Group II. Accordingly, Group I of the claims that was specified by the Examiner above should include claims 1-4 and 16-23.

With such regrouping of the claims, it is confirmed that Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group I (original claims 1-4, 17 and 19, and amended claims 16, 18 and 20-23). In addition, as the Examiner shall ascertain, claims 5-15 (Group II) have been cancelled amended to reflect such election. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that now-pending claims 1-4 and 16-23 be examined on their merits.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that now-pending claims 1-4 and 16-23 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this application if any issues remain outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

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